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" (b) Advertisement inviting applications was published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, in the *Hindu*, *Madras Mail* and *Indian Express*, dated the 17th May 1938.

" (c) The question does not arise."

MR. J. A. SALDANHA :—" May I know why only one Christian was selected? "

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI :—" There were only 10 selected out of 1,000."

Groundnut cultivation and trade in the Presidency.

* 53 *Q.*—SRI B. NARAYANASWAMI NAYUDU : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(a) what the area under groundnut cultivation was in each of the districts of the Madras Presidency during the year 1937–38 and what the quantity of shelled and unshelled nut that was sold out for export was in each district during the said year; and

(b) what the facilities offered or provided for the export of groundnut are in the matter of railway freight and steamer freight?

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI :—" (a) Figures of actual area are not yet available, but according to the final forecast released in January 1938, the estimated acreage in different districts in 1937–38 was as follows :—

District.	Estimated average of groundnut in 1937–38.
Vizagapatam	195,000
East Godavari	1,500
West Godavari	48,500
Kistna	207,000
Guntur	400,000
Kurnool	600,000
Bellary	370,000
Anantapur	425,000
Cuddapah	285,000
Nellore	20,000
Chingleput	80,000
South Arcot	475,000
Chittoor	197,000
North Arcot	450,000
Salem	186,000
Coimbatore	193,000
Trichinopoly	118,000
Tanjore	67,000
Madura	160,000
Ramnad	60,000
Tinnevelly	22,000
Malabar	4,800
Total	4,564,800

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"Figures of exports from different districts are not available. Nor is it possible to arrive at such figures with reference to the existing publications of railborne and seaborne trade as they do not give figures on a district basis. The exports of groundnut (shelled) from this Province in 1937–38, however, amounted to 607,471 tons being distributed as follows:—

	TONS.
Exports by sea (foreign)	562,536
Exports coastwise	14,367
Exports by rail	30,568
Total ..	607,471

"(*b*) Special station to station rates are offered from many important assembling centres in the interior to the ports. These rates are generally less than the ordinary schedule rate of As. 4–6 per maund per mile at owners' risk.

"On the South Indian Railway, special station to station rates exist from Panruti, Acharapakkam, Agramsibandi, Anamalai Road, Arni Road, Chettipalayam, Chinnasalem, Conjeeveram, Dharmapuri, Dindigul, Kannamangalam, Kinathukadavu, Kovilpalayam, Madimangalam, Podanur, Pollachi, Polur, Tindivanam, Tirukoilur, Tirumalpur, Ulundurpet, Valavanur, Vellore, Vriddhachalam, Karur, Sankaridrug and Omalur to any one or more of the ports of Madras Beach, Pondicherry, Cuddalore and Negapatam. The Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway has introduced special station to station rates from Adoni to Bombay, Dronachalam to Madras, Anakapalle to Vizagapatam, from about 60 other stations to Cocanada Port and from Kolakalur and Chilakalurpet to Masulipatam.

"As regards steamer freight, no special facilities are offered. The three main exporting firms in this Presidency make their own arrangements for shipping their groundnuts. Sometimes they charter special ships to transport groundnuts."

Sri B. NARAYANASWAMI NAYUDU:—"May I request the Hon. Minister that, in view of the large amount of trade involved in this, the correct figures may be called for and obtained from each district?"

The Hon. Sri V. V. GIRI:—"There will be some difficulty."

Sri B. NARAYANASWAMI NAYUDU:—"At least in cases where long statements are necessary will the Government put down the answer in writing?"

The Hon. Sri C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"It will be advisable for Members not to star such questions. Then they will be printed and placed on the table when they will be more useful."

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MR. PRESIDENT:—" Lengthy answers to interpellations might be typed or printed and placed on the table of the House, so that the time of the House may be saved."

Machines for shelling groundnut and quantity shelled.

*54 *Q.*—SRI B. NARAYANASWAMI NAYUDU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state how many machines there are in each district for shelling groundnut, in how many towns there are such shelling machines and in how many villages; what the quantity shelled is as per each machine in the several places during the year 1937–38 and whether the owners of the shelling machines are ryots or merchant-men shelling for profit?

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—" A statement [a] showing the number of groundnut shelling factories coming under the Factories Act in the several villages and towns in this Province districtwar is placed on the table of the House. The Government believe that most of the factories are owned by merchants shelling for profit. Other detailed information asked for in the question is not available."

SRI B. NARAYANASWAMI NAYUDU:—" It is stated in the answer that the machines are in the hands of the merchants. May I know whether these machines are in the hands of the ryots themselves and operated by them? Will the Hon. Minister see that the machines are controlled by the ryots themselves and that the ryots themselves get the benefit?"

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—" It is advisable to do so; the Government will see how far it is possible to do so."

Revenue from groundnut trade and quantity of groundnut oil exported from the Presidency.

*55 *Q.*—SRI B. NARAYANASWAMI NAYUDU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(*a*) what the total export value of the groundnut trade is for the Madras Presidency and what the revenue derived by the Imperial Government or by the Provincial Government is from the cultivation and export of groundnuts; what expenses the Government incur upon groundnut in the matter of its production or sale or otherwise; and

(*b*) what the total export is during each year from 1932 of groundnut oil from the Madras Presidency and the places of its destination; what the total inland consumption of groundnut oil each year is since 1932?

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a Printed as Appendix III on pages 76–77 infra.